RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKITESWARA AIYAR : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) About 15,500 sq. ft.

(*c*) It is not in public interests to furnish these details in the case of commercial ventures.

(*d*) The whole output is for sale to the K. D. H. P. Co. Munnar, at 2 annas per sq. ft.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : May I know what were the varieties of timber supplied by the Forest Department to the Development Department for the manufacture of ply wood and the rates at which they were supplied?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKITESWARA AIYAR : Only one kind of timber has been supplied and that is ministica. The rate is working charges plus seigniorage rates.

PRESIDENT : At present negotiations are pending for the starting of a ply wood factory. As honourable members know, ply wood for making teak chests and for other purposes was, till very recently, got from Scandinavia or the Balkans. The whole of India was supplied either from Scandinavia or from the Balkans. Recently steps have been taken in Assam to do some ply wood business. It struck this Government that it was a great pity that with so much material here, it should not be manufactured in this State also. On account of the war even those who have entered into contracts for the supply of ply wood find it difficult to fulfil those contracts. In these circumstances Government are endeavouring to start a ply wood factory here almost immediately ; and any disclosure of cost price or rates or profits would make it very difficult for Government to conduct what may be called successful negotiations.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know the name of the wood?

PRESIDENT : Ministica.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know the Malayalam equivalent for it?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKITESWARA AIYAR : Chora pine.

Village road from 4th mile of the Kottar-Dharmapuram road.

220. *MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Government on 3-5-1113 received a petition from Sivasubramonia Nadar, Narayanaperumal Nadar and others of Puttoor in Dharmapuram pakuthi in Agastisvaram taluk, that the village road branching from 4th mile of the Kottar—Dharmapuram should be metalled;

(*b*) the reasons stated in the petitions for metalling the road ;

(*c*) whether the Chief Engineer or the Executive Engineer, Nagercoil, had visited the village road in 1115 or 1116 ;

(*d*) the amount necessary for metalling the road, which is one and a half miles long ; and

(*e*) the action taken thereon?

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MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The road is in a bad condition and there is heavy traffic on it.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) About Rs. 3,700.

(*e*) As metalling is not considered necessary an estimate for gravelling has been prepared and is awaiting execution.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: May I know why there is no provision in the budget for 1117 for gravelling this road?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: The Advisory Committee did not include this work in this year's budget.

Circular re: confirmations, increments, etc.

221. ❋ MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Financial Secretary to Government has recently issued a Circular to the various departments of the State requiring them to put away the question of all confirmations, increments etc.; and

(*b*) the total amount of money expected to be saved in 1116 and in 1117 by that circular?

MR. R. RAMA VARIER: (*a*) No.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Road from Oachira to Thamarakulam.

222. ❋MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount allotted for gravelling the road from Oachira to Thamarakulam via. Vallikunnam for the year 1116; and

(*b*) the amount spent till this time?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) Rs. 2,000.

(*b*) Rs. 749-10-0 till the end of 10/1116.

Applications under the Debt Relief Act.

223. ❋ MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total number of applications from debtors received till 30th Kumbhom 1116, by the various civil courts in the State to pay the debts in instalments under the Debt Relief Act;

(*b*) the total amount of debt involved by such applications; and

(*c*) the total amount deposited in courts as first instalment under the provisions of the Debt Relief Act?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) 46,697.

(*b*) Rs. 2,43,33,149-Chs. 3-cash 13.

(*c*) Rs. 7,35,802-Chs. 4-cash 11.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know whether information is available in regard to the amount of first instalments paid, till 21-10-1116?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: No, Sir.

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